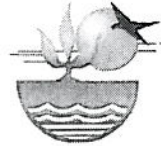




**LOWER PLATTE NORTH  
Natural Resources District**

511 Commercial Park Road  
P.O. Box 126  
Wahoo, NE 68066  
(402) 443-4675



**LOWER PLATTE SOUTH  
NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT**

3125 Portia Street  
P.O. Box 83581  
Lincoln, NE 68501-3581  
(402) 443-4675



**PAPIO-MISSOURI RIVER  
NATURAL  
RESOURCES  
DISTRICT  
OMAHA, NE**

8901 S. 154th St.  
Omaha, NE 68138-3621  
(402) 444-6222

January 15, 2010

The Honorable Ben Nelson  
United States Senate  
720 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Nelson:

Our joint efforts for the Lower Platte River watershed have included three major construction projects that include flood risk reduction and environmental restoration objectives at various levels of emphasis. Physical completion of the Antelope Creek project has occurred and the Sand Creek and the Western Sarpy-Clear Creek projects are on schedule for completion. The objectives of the Lower Platte River watershed are becoming more focused on broader efforts to protect the region's primary water supply and for water quality to address population needs and climate change.

Enclosed is the districts' Projects Report and Fiscal Year 2011 Requests:

1. The Antelope Creek Project will require \$315,000 for reimbursement of costs previously advanced by the local sponsors coordinated by the Lower Platte South Natural Resources District ("NRD"). We will be working with the Corps of Engineers to provide a more exact amount in the coming months. The Administration budgeted for this project in previous fiscal years and we hope that they could be requested to do the same for FY 2011.
2. The Lower Platte River Watershed Restoration Project ("LPRWRP") includes comprehensive planning authority for the region and funding for reconnaissance and feasibility planning, design and construction for new flood risk reduction or environmental restoration projects such as Deadman's Run for which the LPRWRP can serve as a parent. The Corps of Engineers staff has said that this type of authority represents its strategic approach to the nation's water resource requirements. Recognizing that appropriations process for Antelope Creek is very near completion, we would hope that this inclusive program can be added to the Administration's FY 2011 budget consistent with watershed programs that protect other 'great waters' in the United States on which the Obama water resource and environmental policy is focused. We request \$2 million for the comprehensive watershed project, plus \$100,000 for the Deadman's Run reconnaissance study.
3. The Western Sarpy-Clear Creek project includes elements for environmental restoration and flood damage reduction. The amount needed to complete the Western Sarpy-Clear Creek Project under present estimates is \$1,064,000 subject to the construction procurement process and other

considerations. We have previously requested an increased adjustment in the statutory authorization for this project in the next Water Resources Development Act being developed by the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee. Consistent with previous practice, we also request bill language in the FY 2011 appropriation to increase the current statutory authorization to \$32,500,000 with a federal cost of \$21,125,000 and a non-federal cost of \$11,375,000, in order to accelerate this change.

4. The Sand Creek Environmental Restoration Project's seven upstream structures are nearing construction procurement. The Corps of Engineers advises that they believe that sufficient funds are available for this purpose. Cost estimates are ongoing and additional funding may be needed subject to the procurement process.
5. The remaining FY 2011 appropriations requests are identified in the enclosed.

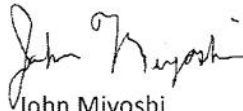
These requests are aimed at advancing a comprehensive approach to water resources for Eastern Nebraska. We look forward to providing additional information and to working closely with all of the other members of the delegation that represent this region.

Thank you for your remarkable leadership on water for Nebraska and for your assistance to our districts and their projects.

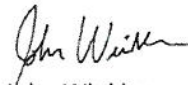
Very truly yours,



Glenn Johnson  
General Manager  
LPSNRD



John Miyoshi  
General Manager  
LPNNRD



John Winkler  
General Manager  
PMNRD